

i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitable earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

—e.e. cummings

March 31, 2024

9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Joys and Concerns

Sharla Hulsey

In order to respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. Please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray during communion.

Welcome and Announcements

Carol Roberts, Elder

If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video or visit fccbutler.org and click the Register Attendance button.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

Prelude

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Mary Coffman

Lynda Perkins

*Call to worship (please rise as able) Carol Roberts & Congregation
(by Edward Young, adapted by William Billings)

L: The Lord is risen!

P: The Lord is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

L: Now is Christ risen from the dead,
and become the first fruits of them that slept.

P: Hallelujah!

L: Hear, O ye nations; hear it, O ye dead.

**P: He burst the bars of death
and triumphed over the grave! Hallelujah!**

*Opening Hymn

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

CH #216 (All)

*Invocation

Carol Roberts & Congregation

We praise you, LORD our God, because when you raised your Son Jesus Christ from the dead you transformed what should have been a tragic ending into a hopeful beginning. We thank you for the gift of an empty tomb. We are here today to worship you. Come and be present with us, to hear our prayers and our praises, and to strengthen us to accept the challenge of finishing the story that began at the empty tomb, in the name of the One by whose name we have been called, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Hymn

“In the Garden”

CH #227 (All)

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer - “The Lord’s Prayer”

Sharla Hulsey

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading

Carol Roberts & Congregation

Psalm 118:14, 17, 19-24 (*United Methodist Hymnal*)

L: The LORD is my strength and my power;
the LORD has become my salvation.

**P: I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

**P: This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

L: I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**P: The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

L: This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**P: This the day which the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Special Music

“Hallelujah! Thine the Glory”

Adult Choir

Scripture

Mark 16:1-8

Lyssa Lile

Message

“I went to a fight and a hockey game broke out”

Sharla Hulsey

Invitation to Discipleship

Sharla Hulsey

*Invitation Hymn

CH #226 (All)

“He Lives!”

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Verdaderamente, Cristo ha resucitado. ¡Aleluya!

예수님은 진실로 부활하셨습니다. 할렐루야!

Le Christ est vraiment ressuscité ! Alléluia !

Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Five words. Our united and active response to Easter.

“Jesus is risen indeed. Alleluia!” is an affirmation of faith. It is our faithful response to the power of resurrection at work in our congregations, communities, and ministries across the world. Because Jesus is risen, we are set free, indeed, to share the limitless love of God, set free from the grip of sin and death, set free to rise together in shared ministry, language, and service.

CHRIST IS
RISEN
INDEED,
ALLELUIA!
MARK 16:1-8



Verdaderamente, Cristo ha resucitado. ¡Aleluya!

예수님은 진실로 부활하셨습니다. 할렐루야!

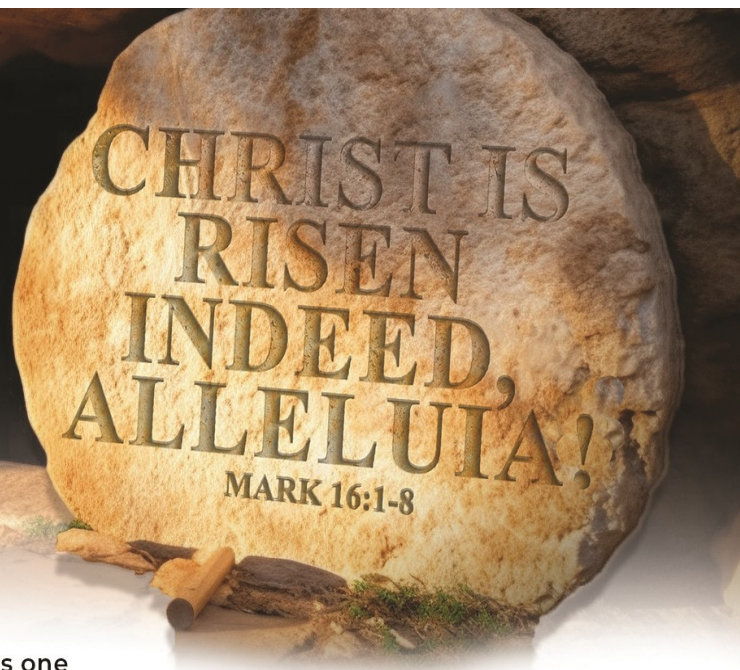
Le Christ est vraiment ressuscité ! Alléluia !

Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Received in most congregations

SUNDAY
MARCH 24 & 31, 2024

Supporting general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



On Easter, we celebrate the power of the resurrection together with the whole body of Christ as one united church in multiple places with many gifts and languages.

Gifts to the Easter Special Offering support ministries that help Disciples share the limitless love of God that overcomes death. General Ministries of the Christian Church share the good news from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth through:



- Health and social service ministries that meet basic needs for neighbors.
- Mental health resources for pastors and congregations.
- New congregations worshipping in a variety of languages and worship styles.
- Leadership development programs that nurture new leaders in the church and the world.
- Support for hospital and military chaplains serving around the world.
- Stewardship education for congregations to grow in their practice of generosity.
- Relationships with global mission partners serving in communities impacted by conflict and climate change.
- Opportunities like the General Assembly, where the church can gather for worshipful work.
- And so much more...

The Easter Offering supports these general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

Center for Faith and Giving, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries (Obra Hispana), Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Division of Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, and Treasury Services.

Please give generously to the Easter Offering on March 24 and 31 in your congregation or make a gift at disciplesmissionfund.org/give.